



SAMUEL H. SMITH
THE SPEAKER

House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

May 31, 2011

Received & Inspected

JUN - 8 2011

FCC Mail Room

Federal Communications Commission
c/o Marlene Dortch, Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WT 11-65: In the Matter of applications of AT & T, Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations.

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

From my days as a freshman member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives to my role today as Speaker of the House, job creation and retention have been at the top of my list of priorities.

We have sought to advance a public policy agenda that will help the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania become a national leader in job creation and growth and regain our competitive edge. There are many elements that will be necessary for us to achieve our goals, and foremost among them is a strong technology infrastructure.

Pennsylvania has led the nation in building the kind of broadband networks that will help our businesses grow; our hospitals treat an aging population; and our young people access a seemingly limitless amount of educational tools to help them prepare for a lifetime of success. As technology has evolved, however, we know that we cannot rely only on the traditional landline broadband infrastructure; we must find ways to provide access to fast and reliable wireless broadband connections.

The AT & T/T-Mobile USA merger will build upon our success by building out a faster, next-generation wireless broadband network that will reach more Pennsylvanians sooner than either company would have been able to do separately.

This is especially critical in a state as diverse as ours. We are home to well-connected, world-class cities such as Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. And, we're also home to world-class rural communities like those in Armstrong, Indiana and Jefferson Counties that are striving to compete in the digital age. This merger would provide residents and businesses in my communities with

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access to more and faster technologies that make them competitive with their neighbors in our larger cities – and with other communities around the world.

It is my sincere hope that you will weigh the many benefits of this merger to my district and our Commonwealth, and approve the deal as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sam" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Sam Smith
Speaker of the House
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

CC: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Dave Kerr